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PATENT
06005/36797

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dietz et al.) I hereby certify that this paper (or fee) is
Serial No: 09/594,678) being deposited with the United States
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Group Art Unit: 2782) March 18, 2002
Examiner: Not Yet Known) Roger A. Heppermann
) Reg. No. 37,641
) Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
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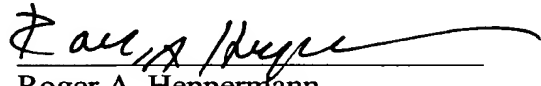
Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the information identified on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 is disclosed to the Examiner for consideration in connection with the above-identified patent application. Copies of the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits and, consequently, should be considered by the Patent Office without payment of a fee. See 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). Furthermore, each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited or originated in a communication from the United Kingdom office in a counterpart Great Britain application not more than three months prior to the filing (mailing) of this Information Disclosure Statement. For this further reason, no fee is due for consideration of this information. See, 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1). However, if any additional fee is required for the

consideration of this information, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A copy of this paper is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Roger A. Heppermann

Reg. No. 37,641

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN

6300 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357

(312) 474-6300

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